

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LUSAKA 00640 021154Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-14 CIAE-00 DODE-00
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-02
INR-10 L-03 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-12 AID-05
OMB-01 TRSE-00 HA-05 EB-08 /107 W
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O P 020808Z MAR 78
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7734
INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY GABORONE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LAGOS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LILONGWE PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

UNCLAS LUSAKA 0640

CAPE TOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: MASS, SOPN, US, ZA
SUBJ: REPORTED U.S. MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO ZAMBIA

1. LOCAL PRESS MARCH 1 ASKED USIS TO COMMENT ON BBC REPORT
THAT U.S. WOULD PROVIDE ZAMBIA WITH DOLS 18 MILLION TO MODERNIZE
THE ZAMBIAN ARMY. IN RESPONSE USIS ISSUED FOLLOWING NEWS RELEASE,
USING LANGUAGE FROM FEB. 28 WIRELESS FILE COVERING ASST. SECY.
MOOSE'S FEB. 28 CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY, TITLED "AMERICAN SECURITY
ASSISTANCE TO AFRICA INCLUDES ZAMBIA."

QUOTE
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PAGE 02 LUSAKA 00640 021154Z

LUSAKA, MARCH 1 -- THE UNITED STATES WILL PROVIDE A TOTAL OF

87.25 MILLION DOLLARS IN SECURITY ASSISTANCE TO SUB-SAHARAN
AFRICA FOR FISCAL YEAR 1979, A SPOKESMAN FOR THE AMERICAN EMBASSY
CONFIRMED IN LUSAKA TODAY (MARCH 1).

MORE THAN HALF OF THIS AMOUNT IS SLATED FOR THE COUNTRIES OF SOUTHERN AFRICA WHICH SUFFER BECAUSE OF VIOLENCE IN THE REGION.

SPECIFICALLY, THE UNITED STATES WILL PROVIDE SEVERAL MILLION DOLLARS TO AID THE ZAMBIAN ECONOMY. THE MONEY IS TO RELIEVE ITS BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS CAUSED BY THE LOW COPPER PRICES AND THE DISRUPTION OF ZAMBIA'S TRANSPORTATION NETWORK AS A RESULT OF THE CONFLICTS IN RHODESIA AND ANGOLA, SAID THE SPOKESMAN.

IN ADDITION, THE U.S. WILL PROVIDE SECURITY ASSISTANCE MONEY FOR SHELTER AND EDUCATION OF REFUGEES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

END QUOTE

2. TIMES OF ZAMBIA MARCH 2 CARRIES FRONT PAGE STORY DATE-LINED LONDON BY ARNOLD RAPHAEL WHICH SAY "IN LUSAKA AN AMERICAN EMBASSY SPOKESMAN CONFIRMED REPORTS THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS TO PROVIDE MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO SOUTHERN AFRICAN COUNTRIES INCLUDING ZAMBIA IN ANTICIPATION OF A MILITARY CONFLICT IN THE REGION." ARTICLE THEN GOES ON TO SAY THAT EMBASSY STATEMENT DID NOT SPECIFY HOW MUCH ZAMBIA WOULD GET AND WHAT TYPE OF "MILITARY ASSISTANCE" IT WOULD BE. THEN TEXT OF USIS PRESS RELEASE IS GIVEN.

3. WE BELIEVE THE REFERENCE TO THE EMBASSY CONFIRMING MILITARY UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 03 LUSAKA 00640 021154Z

ASSISTANCE IS A TIMES OF ZAMBIA ADD-ON TO THE RAPHAEL ARTICLE, THE MAIN THRUST OF WHICH IS ZAMBIA'S PROSPECTS FOR OBTAINING AN IMF LOAN.
LOW

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